STANDARD

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February 27th 1862. BUENOS AYRES. No. 43.

Inauguration of the San Fernando Railway.

Wednesday 26th Feb. '62.

Buenos Ayres has to-day witnessed a splendid spectacle in the re-opening of the works for constructing the line from this city to San Fernando. On foreign readers are already aware that during two years the enterprise seemed abandoned; until, a few months back, the eminent director, M. Crosby along with the experienced contractor, M. Murray, arrived here, bringing from England a troop of artisans, under the able superintendence of Mr King, engineer. Late came a quantity of materials; and nothing was wanting, but the permission of government to commence operations in earnest.

Governor Mitre, who has so much identified himself with every public improvement, signified his intent in being present, with his Ministers, to give due éclat to the occasion. Accordingly, Wednesday was fixed for the inauguration, and cards of invitation were freely sent round to the principal men of standing, natives and foreigners.

A spacious tent occupied the site of the intended station, the inside being furnished with three tables, on which the delicacies and wines were abundantly supplied. The centre or main table, intended for the principal guests was elevated above the others, at the end of the tent, and a space in the middle was prettily decorated with the banners of all nations. Covers were laid for 400, and the lunche was provided in a style regardless of expense.

At 11 ½ A. M. His Excellency General Mitre was announced by the bugles of the Rifle-levers, and immediately the out-riders and carriages appeared descending the hill. On arriving at the rubble-work, it was received by Messrs. Crosby and Murray, with whom he warmly shook hands. The Minister of Government, and War Secretary, also saluted the worthy hosts; and the railway engineer. The day being very fine and rather warm, the Governor and Ministers retired to the tent for a short interval, while the other guests assembled, and the artillery band played select airs.

Before the hour of noon, some 300 gentlemen were on the ground. A list of all would be impossible; but we were enabled to recognise many of the most influential citizens and merchants of our society: Messrs Armstrong, Brown, Tweddy, Coghlan, Varela, Cassfounth, Pellegrini, Santamaria, Dr. Scrivener, Boyd, Wineberg, Col. Dillon, Potter, Rot. A. Fahey, Rot. T Kirwan, Dr. Elizalde, Rawson, Rivera, Knight, Hopkins, Kearsley, Allen, Miró, &c. &c.

At a signal from His Excellency, the whole company repaired to the flagstaff outside the tent, where a space had been marked out for "the first sod". A circle was formed of the Ministers and Railway officers, behind which stood the well-dressed crowd of visitors. General Mitre then advanced, and having turned up a piece of the verdant turf, conveyed it in a handsome wheelbarrow to its destination. On upsetting the first clods of the much-desired line, a general cheer burst from the by-standers, in grateful recognition of the act. Then a host of "navvies" rushed in with spade and shovel to continue the works so happily inaugurated. They then struck up the National Hymn "Oh! Immortales", and rockets, rattling their fiery scores in the firmament, succeeded to the city the felicitous event, which the Press was destined to carry on electric wings, to the far-distant shores of England and European Continent.

The object of the meeting not being yet consummated, an adjournment was made to the dejeuner-apartment. Here the tables were quickly occupied, the guests ranging themselves on either side, while the chief magistrates were conducted to the seats of honor.

On the right of Mr. Crosby sat His Excellency the Governor, and on the left Dr. Elizalde, the prime-minister, present. But yesterday the [illegible] Further to the right, at the head table, [illegible] were the English Minister, Sir Edward Thornton; Sor. Elizalde, Senator; Mr. Murray, the contractor; Dr. Pico, the Attorney General; and Sor. Posadas Post-master of the State. On the left next after Dr. Acosta, came Dr. Alsina the Assessor (and late Governor) General Gelly-Obes, Minister of War, and Sor. Ocampo, Chief of Police.

Through the courtesy of the Director and Contractor, convenient seats were provided for the Editors of the *Tribune* and *Standard*, the former being at the head of the right, and latter at the left, table. Cold fowls, ham, pastries, fruits, ices and nobbles, were discussed simultaneously with excellent claret, sherry and St Julien. When the inner man had been already fairly stereophonised, and conviviality began to smile upon the festive board, the worthy Director, Mr Crosby, stood up to deliver an opening speech, in Spanish which he kept before him to refresh his memory.

He said:

Mr. Governor and Gentlemen—

It is with the sincerest and most heartfelt pleasure that I rise to address you on the occasion. To-day we are assembled to inaugurate an enterprise which is highly emblematic of the regeneration of the Argentine Republic. The hands the conquerors of Pavon, on whom depend the national destinies, we are now enabled to re-commence the works of the San Fernando rail-road. Three years ago this line was begun amid the good wishes of the public; but an adverse fortune befel it, through which it struggled with difficulty and second almost undone. A new company was formed in London, great capital was brought to its rescue, yet obstacles, involving immense expense, still threatened to baffle every effort. Nothing short of an indomitable perseverance could carry out this undertaking.

In this emergency we had the good luck to arrange the contract with Mr. Murray, who has given proofs of wide-spread reputation: the new contractor entered as zealously into the project, that he determined on coming out in person to superintend the works, and visited by the experienced engineer, Mr. King. Already large quantities of material are on the ground, and men have been employed to execute the preparatory labors, and, to crown all, we have gained the sympathy of His Excellency the Governor General Mitre has secured for B. Ayres years of peace, and the empire of Liberty; under such auspices, we confidently inaugurate the new railway, as emblematic of the future progress of this noble country. Such is the flattering picture presented to our view, and I solemnly protest do I feel, as Representative of the Company, for the kindness so constantly and universally shewn towards the enterprise. Permit me to express my especial thanks to the Minister of Finance, who, I regret, is not present, and to the late prime-minister, Dr. Obligado.

In promising that we will make the welfare of the Argentine Republic our dearest study, I cannot give a better pledge, than coupling with it the name of your greatest statesman and soldier, General Mitre. I propose the toast:

"Argentine prosperity and General Mitre."

Here the whole company stood up glass in hand, cheering enthusiastically. The English guests gave "three times three" with supreme gusto; "hip, hip-hurrah" echoed along the line, enough to alarm the navvies, and Mr Boyd gave "one cheer more," which was warmly responded to. The every champagne bumper was drained, and the guests having seated themselves, the Minister of Finance, who passed down the tables, in which persons were divided in giving greater praise to the subject of eulogy, or to the felicitous expression, in a foreign language, of Mr. G's sentiments. Music and fireworks played an interludes, and a very pleasant hour was spent in anxiously awaited the reply of General Mitre.

His Excellency's rising was a signal for silent attention, and he thus spoke:

Gentlemen,

I will commence, as Mr. Crosby has done, by thanking the company present. But yesterday the [illegible] Further to the right, at the head table, [illegible] were the English Minister, Sir Edward Thornton; Sor. Elizalde, Senator; Mr. Murray, the contractor; Dr. Pico, the [illegible] and pick-ans were busy making truc-[illegible] they are cutting out all rail-road. Yesterday B. Ayres kindled with a holy enthusiasm to repel the assault of barbarism—to-day she brandishes the arms of civilization These are the only weapons for a warfare against ignorance; and by these alone can she hope for that Liberty of the mind, which will crown every labor and sanctify every exertion.

Hitherto, it is true, moments of peril, when citizens are called upon to unsheath the sword, and vindicate the rights of free-born men against the attacks of despotic and lawless force (such moments we are obliged to obey even our own brethren, for the public safety. But, civil war, and bloodshed bring with them no glory—they are not our mission—our inheritance is the Gospel, not the machine of Mars.

There is yet another enemy: inert matter, and a spirit of inactivity, which Heaven has given us strength to overcome. The motive-power, has force to subdue the sea and the desert. Of all arms known to man, there is no other so powerful as the steam-engine; verily he is a conqueror, who conquers both time and space. His breath is fire; his muscles, iron; his banner, smoke; his footprints, the rail-way; his way to the remotest districts of *campaña*, carrying, everywhere, civilization in his train. He is, who, in his career of conquest, will annex provinces to the capital, and bring Tandil to Flores. With this ally we shall be stronger than with armed legions. A railroad from Rosario to Cordoba is worth much more than a tribe of savages.

Gentlemen, I have done.

The chairman next proposed the health of the English Minister, which his Excellency responded to, and seemed anxious to anticipate.

Mr. THORNTON replied:

I feel exceedingly happy in being called on to offer a few words, after the eloquent discourse we have just heard. While acknowledging the kind manner in which you have received my toast, I cannot hesitate to concur entirely with the noble sentiments of General Mitre, in wishing success to the Northern Railway. I pray fervently that it may not stop at San Fernando, but rather traverse the frontiers of this province and of the Government, Geneva, and bring the furthermost village of Bolivia. Thus shall we have a guarantee against the possibility of the security of thousands of armed picquets; for civilization relies more on the whistle of a railway train than on the booming of artillery.

I give you, therefore, gentlemen, "Peace to the Argentine Republic."

Long applause followed this jubilee harangue, after which His Excellency rose, and said:

Gentlemen,

We have just drunk to a toast I had wished to propose—the health of the English Minister. But if we cannot yet drink to the health of the Minister, we can drink to the magnanimous ideas he has expressed. Nay, he has only proposed the peace of the country; let us now drink to the pacification of universal humanity.

After a brief pause, Dr. Acosta, the prime-minister, briefly said:

Gentlemen, patriotism, had seemed jealous of Argentine felicity, and our line to San Fernando suffered an unlucky *condemnation* which almost proved fatal. We were on the point of losing a signal benefit, were it not for the timely intervention of a new Company. Let us thank Mr Crosby as our good genius: let us celebrate his arrival, as that of a precursor of the Angel Gabriel.

The Director answered:

In telling you how deeply grateful I am for your courteous flattery, words fail to express all I would say: pitiful as my speech is further impeded, because I have now no book before me, and I really know not where to find my thoughts. Yet the language of the heart is the same in every land, and I trust the brevity of my discourse will be [illegible] English. A voice "that's too much of a good thing"! I might try it, but I can indulge in no long speech to-day. Every happy toast we drink, gives us a pretext for drinking another.

[illegible] Senator, is at rest.

The minister of [illegible] Secretaries, as that to [illegible] given the heavenly mission of reforming and civilizing the others. Force, most in every impulse is Great Britain for she has awakened the energies of the earth. She it was who cherished in this country the aspirations for Liberty and fanned the flame your Independence. We entered into the struggle your; this lent us money we were unable for a long time to pay back; she then trusted us with the best guaranty. England is our best friend. At first we vainly fancied that Argentina could raise her railroads, but we were soon undeceived. English gold has come to the rescue, English intelligence will perfect the work, and guarantee their triumph of the arts of peace. Join me, therefore, in drinking

"Science, Liberty, Great Britain, the friend of mankind."

D. VALENTIN ALSINA said: This is indeed, the second time we have met to inaugurate the Northern railway. To-day we celebrate "cutting the first sod," and I trust, ere long, we shall be again invited to put the last stone to the work, and guarantee the triumph of the arts of peace. Join me, therefore, in drinking

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Mr. CROSBY said: You have drunk gentlemen, success to the railroad, but you have left out the Chairman who passed it. You must remember it has existed since 1859; and, if it be a benefit, the chairman are due to those legislators who gave it being. To them we owe everything: they are our mentors, and we must respect them.

Here a delegate of the Belgrano Municipality read an address expressive of the lively gratulations of his constituents, on observing that the line was really going a-head.

Sr. PELLEGRINI, on rising, charged Sr. Sarmiento with partiality, in not having coupled Francisco Pellegrini with Great Britain, as the friends of this country and pioneers of civilization. The Minister was a Frenchman, since he called himself a Frenchman although most people thought him an Italian, as his name implies. He received an address to General Mitre, expatiating on the value of the line, the necessity for an Agricultural School, for a course of Navigation, the third assistance lent him by Genera Gelly, the great happiness of Mitre on the occasion, and the better use of state revenues for schools than for other purposes.

The Governor responded:

Sr. Pellegrini, Sr. Elizalde, for the allusion to me, and assure you that I feel happy in raising the sole for the toast proposed by you. A short time ago raised the earth to have the honor of your soldiers of Pavon; to-day we have cut the ground to bury the seeds of civilization, and of prosperity, and religious tolerance. Thus we advance on the highway of progress. And here I am reminded how much G. Britain and N. America have done for this peculiar branch of industry. Nor is Francia in the back-ground. In fine, Europe is our instructor, and from her we could do nothing. Yet, even these errors were at first predominant, I am bound to say that in the Upper House of Lords it was asserted that it spoke of the origins would upset the Government, in a case of public interest. A learned society proved that the wagon, impelled by steam could go neither back nor forward.

Hey-day! take Europe for our model, Francs will guide us with her genius, England assistance us with her capital and energy—and Italy supply us with her noble sentiments. On viewing the state of politics in this country, I must bear in mind that every form of Government, monarchical, federal, or unitarian, is perfectly compatible with our happiness.

Sr. ELIZALDE said: Gentlemen, I rise to propose a toast to Italy, the mother of Belgrano, confessing that we are indebted to France and Italy almost as much as to England.

Dr. ACOSTA continued in the same line, to France we owe our fashions and literature, to Italy, our music, to Spain, our chivalry, and to Africa, our Garibaldi and of Olivera! Let us drink, then, to the Italian nation, for blood is worth more than imports and fashions and books.

Mr. CROSBY briefly proposed "The English Commerce", coupling with it the name of Sr. Santamarina.

Sr. VARELA, of the "Tribuna", there stood up and said: It has been remarked that we should return thanks to Great Britain for her capital, France for her ideas, and Italy for her blood: this is very just; but there is a spirit abroad to which we owe yet more. Through the fire and smoke of revolutions, ever since the artillery of Cassaroc announced "Liberty" to the city, "Progreso" has been our watch word. Tis written in our Press, in our gas, our shipping, our railways. This is the spirit of civilization in which we should imitate Great Britain, France and Italy.

To-morrow, these rails, which have yet to kill by the hoofs of Pavon, will disturb the bones of those victims of tyranny who perished at Palermo: they will not be alarmed, for the despotism is gone, and the new railway will announce to them the freedom of their country, and our advancement in the arts of peace.

Sr. SANTAMARIA next rose and said:

To other speakers has fallen the enthusiasm of great subjects and fine discourse: my words shall be more simple. You have done me the honor to unite my name with "The English Commerce". I take the compliment as directed to my office of *Sindico* of the *Bolsa*, rather than to my personal quality, which is unpretending. I have heard that railways are the Elixir of civilization, but, unhappily, we are backward in these enterprise. It is, however, true that "Progreso" has received an impulse by the garland of fame which encircles Gen. Mitre. Would to God we had railways to Bolivia, and to the Cordillera! Thus the South is naturally rich, but greatness is dormant, although Sr Mitre Pelegrini and other candidates think favorably of the Chascomus line. I drink also to the Western which should be extended as far as Mendoza. This is a local enterprise, and I pray by our own Government without the admittance of foreign capital.

Mr. CROSBY winded up by observing:

As representative of the Company I must very acknowledge most for your kind assistance here to-day—and the conclusion I toast the Southern and Western lines, that with the Northern, may shortly unite in the country, as many arteries of commercial vitality, forming a net-work of powerful metal.

The Governor and Ministers then rose, and Dr. Elizalde, the concluding toast, subsequently spoke, in reply to several calls for his speech.

The Chairman then rose: the very high eulogiums passed by the learned minister of Government, Dr. Acosta, in proposing my health, have had a very adverse effect. I fully appreciate, but feel that it is, in a measure, a compliment which I have yet to merit.

This undertaking is, as yet, in its infancy, and although I have in it many difficulties to contend with, which are now completely overcome, I feel that, as yet, I have given no public demonstration of the merits attributed to me by the Honorable minister; but I have no doubt whatever of the efficiency of the men whom I have brought from England, one, in fact, by one thirty in the way of funds, implements, hands, machinery, &c. &c. I ask you, Gentlemen, a few months, or a few months, when I hope to have the pleasure of your company on an excursion to Belgrano (tremendous cheering, amid which the coffee was dispersed)

Town-talk.

The debates in the Senate still continue; we were unable yesterday to attend the session, but have been informed that Dr. Acosta, the Prime Minister, delivered a telling oration in favor of making the city the capital. There is a project before the Municipality, for draining the streets by some large angled process: as there is no pavement, we suppose it is going to be left up to the sun and water must irrigate, and of course, it is not so fatal to health as the stagnant water-current to flush the drains. We would advise our civic legislators to make the drainage & pipe water inseparable undertakings, as we are at present obliged to drink a foul, corrupt beverage; and it is most worth while to open up the streets for a half starved benefit, or imperfect job.

Madame (Portela) Monteodeca's funeral was numerously attended, and Dr Varela pronounced a short, though graceful, tribute to the memory of the deceased.

We have to postpone some remarks on the project of a canal at Ensenada, he Belgrano trotting-match, the state of the Upper Provinces, and other matters, which will appear to-morrow.

LOCAL EVENTS.

The Foreign Ministers.—We have to greet the arrival of our worthy *Charge d'affaires*, Mr. Thornton, who is expected probably to fix his permanent residence in this city. Sr. Seaone, the Peruvian Minister, has also arrived on board the "Menai;" he has already hoisted the flag and arms of his country. The French envoy, M. Lefebre, is still rusticating at Parana.

San Fernando Railway.—On to-morrow is the re-inauguration of this line takes place. The Governor and Ministry will be present, besides a select company of guests. After luncheon one hundred "navvies" will commence operations, near the site of the station now in contruction. All who wish to "God-speed" will be expected to attend; for the San Fernando line is, at last, *at last accomplished*.—26th Feb.

A four-pus.—Our English colleague has, it seems, parted company with the "Tribuna," for the latter has placed him in Limbo, with Q. E. F. D. for an epitaph. With "Nacional" says the C. I. has a cataract in each eye, for presuming to say that none of the local papers treated of the Guerrebolle discussion. Perhaps our colleague visit at San Fernando or Tigre during the sessions.

We notice that Governor Mitre has appointed Sr. Don Francisco Pico to the post of Minister. We are glad to see that the Governor has taken our hint of putting "the right man in the right place."

Well.—We have to advise our readers that we have real pumpkin-pie at the hot cake (on the Pastel-Capillo, and gets up good condition.

Warington's birthday

Saturday being the natal anniversary of the great Father of his Country, was celebrated by all friends of civil and religious liberty—the Sons of Albion had a banquet at the House of Hotel.

The best of all our best events is the rain which has so badly wanted, friends from the south informs us that during the last 7 or 8 days it has rained into a copious, and the legumes are all full—in the north it has rained little but cold—so much—that we are still being watered owing to the absence of green grass, but we hope for two like of our camp, and that the rain will extend to the north and South and that there will be no watering-tub next year.

MARRIED.

On the 19th instant, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. A. Fahey, Camillo, eldest son of P. F. Renacer, Esqr. Merchant, Antwerp, to Eliza, second daughter of Dr. Cassidy.

The New Congress Stakes.

(Autumn meeting.)

The last six months have wrought so wondrous a change in these provinces of the Plate, that we are content to look stolidly on the occurrences of to-day, without thinking of what they may bring the morrow will bring. Yet the fear of an erroneous calculation should not deter us from counting the odds on such high stakes as the progress of the Republic involves. In reference to political ascendancy, which must soon be run, three parties will enter the course, and three jockeys will strive for the prize.

First we have the "Federal," an old broken-kneed, short-winded animal, formerly the winner on every occasion, but now unable to cope with either of its competitors. The color of the rider is *red*, and the jockey, Urquiza, is a good horseman at steeple-chasing, having over-ridden every bound or fence that came in his way.

Second comes the "Unitario," a fiery young colt possessing great activity and vigor, but likely, in its impetuosity, to stray off the course, or run foul of the others. A blue jacket and cap are the insignia of Mariano, who is anxious on his recovery his youthful reputation by showing off, making his Pegasus cut extraordinary capers to the applause of the spectators. But he keeps his seat insecurely, and Alsina doubts if he can stay ridership, on the ground that he is light weight. He wears his cap jauntily thrown back, while the "Federal" jockey pulls his almost over his eyes. Heavy bets are backed on the "Unitario," but it is probable that after a few rounds the "Federal" would over-reach him by some crafty short-cut.

Third, the "Republican," is a fine thorough-bred steed, not so well known as either of the others, (being recently entered), but exhibiting more grace and strength than any. For field exercise he has a high reputation, although "jobbers" assert that he is fit for nothing else. The color is black and white, and the rider, Mitre, a first-rate hand. He has been some time in training, but was once or twice "checked" by his employer, for eagerness in the pursuit of his "game". It is probable he is not sufficiently appreciated by the public. His manner of holding the rein is admirable, and, unless he prove unable to manage his courser, we fancy he will come in to the winning post, distanceing "Unitario" by some lengths, and leaving "Federal" far behind.

There are various possible contingencies which would give the prize to any of the competitors. Thus, if the two Ayrosa rivals jostle each other in the race, "Federal" may take advantage to drop in silly, when nobody is looking at him.

Again, "Unitario," making a neck-and-neck race (like the Belgrano trotting), with "Republican", cannot be so far behind as that a prejudiced umpire (the *eulgus*) will not find excuse to pretend he has won; or else, by throwing out hints against both his adversaries, make it appear that they cheated him; he will, therefore, claim the stakes.

But we are inclined to bet on "Republican" in the long run. Let the rider keep a strong hold at the same time coaxing and patting his steed when necessary. Let him place a respectful distance between himself and competitors, for "Federal" is vicious and bites unsuspectedly, and "Unitario" (half frolic, half malice,) kicks on all sides.

The autumn meeting will not come off in this city (as gallooping is prohibited). Neither is the *curriculum* yet fixed, but it seems the *pampas* are to get the preference.

The Paper-Money of Buenos Ayres.

The fluctuating character of the currency in Buenos Ayres is an evil which we are so well accustomed to now, that few persons trouble their heads on the subject. Most people regard it as a sort of necessary nuisance for which there exists no possible remedy. But, were every nuisance tolerated, it would be impossible to live in any civilized community.

Therefore, all heavy grievances such as gallopping in the street, improperly lighting the gas, dilatory delivery of invoices, and such things, must be attended to; but, for heaven's sake, who is the Buenos Ayres, save the Editor of the "Standard," would condescend to trouble themselves about such a miserable, paltry thing as the rise and fall of a solitary paper-dollar?

For the last *quien sabes*, how many years up and down, and down and up, has been the history of this paper-dollar; and, may we ask, how much longer is this to go on, carrying with it effects so disastrous, yet so silent, that, at first sight, it almost seems inconceivable to trace the inevitable consequence of such a miserable monetary system?

Every man, woman and child is a loser by this state of things. To specify all the different causes which have influenced, during this country would fill up every column of the "Standard" and require the genius of a Ricardo or Peel to do proper justice. We have no such pretensions, but to call attention to the immediate cause we feel bound to.

"Proxima causa et non remota spectatur." The immediate cause of the great fluctuation of paper is, that it represents no mercantile or commercial capital. Men are willing to admit that the reputation of a Bank without capital, or the public confidence in the actual government, are articles of commerce; which is absurd.

For how can we expect that confidence may be in an institution which is intrinsically public, so long as it is fettered with Government patronage, it will inevitably succumb to some commercial or political crisis sooner or later?

Did the Bank hold Govt. bonds to the extent of its issue; did it vault contain specie to represent its paper; did the profits in the business belong to a portion of our community in the shape of stockholders, there might be less room for our complaint: but an automatan institution, working a certain loss to the public, and gains to itself, gains which exist not, gain which are represented by loss to the public, is at best but an incubus on the commercial community.

Of course it will be urged that, as this bank has held out so long, it deserves to be supported and encouraged, lest it should never fail. Failed! The very idea is preposterous. How can it fail when paper it gives and gold it receives. How may we ask, can it fail? It must first break the public.

It is possible, it is even probable, that, at some future period, paper money, deteriorating daily, as it is & has done, will cease to be current but that won't break the bank (its obligations are payable in paper) until such an institution virtually lacks the specie to pay for raw paper and ink, it can't be called stopped.

Unlike to all other banks in the world is this Buenos Aires bank, it enjoys a real depotic monopoly, which, of itself, is contrary to the genius of all republican Governments.

It may be said that, if we had any other sort of Banking system, it would be less safe, as, for instance, England and U. S. where every bank must have either gold or Government stock to represent its issues,—generally speaking the issue is represented by stock, and not gold, since stock is more valuable than gold in a bank vault is a dead loss. Still, with all these safe guards, the banks fail, when the deposited stocks fall so low in price that, when sold, they are not worth the specie required to take up its issue—but this argument, on reflection, is more ingenious, than safe. Years past, when the "Casa de Moneda" sprung into existence sixteen paper Dollars bought a gold ounce, and today "400" wont buy the same

Inconceivable is the loss which such a stupendous deterioration has entailed upon every inhabitant of Buenos Ayres. Better, that it should have failed fifty times, than lived to be a moment of such terrific public confidence.

If this Bank is making money so fast, how comes it that its paper daily depreciates? It cannot be for the scarcity of gold, since each year this article is becoming more and more abundant: neither can it be on account of any deficiency of revenue, for, if it was, it would have Government stock, or vouchers, to show for every emission or loan it has made. We must say, we are completely at a loss, as to all but one fact, and that is, the great depreciation of its notes.

Slow, silent, but majestically is the grand have been these fluctuations, from 11 paper-dollars to 400. It is about time that the matter should be sifted, and, if possible, remedied.

One thing certain is, that if we had not the "Casa de Moneda" in Buenos Ayres, we would have twenty or thirty good joint-stock Banks, accommodating the public on less stringent terms, helping the poor man, and disseminating capital through every part of the country.

The "Tribuna" has already favored the public with some lucubrations on the matter; but, as it is in reference to a communicated article, it hardly becomes us, as the organ of foreign, who opposition, to controvert the fallacious notion, that the future well being and prosperity of a nation is a sufficient or any guarantee for the payment of bank-notes. XX.

The Senate on the Capital.

The fourth session, held on Thursday, was probably superior to its antecedents in the vigor of argumentation displayed by the combatants, and in the display of much rhetorical fluency, and applied the full force of Castilian eloquence to support their opposite views. No irrelevant matter was introduced, no ill-timed animosities fell into the heat of discussion; in fact were the speakers only on their legs, there is little wanting in our Provincial Senate to give it the look of an European parliament.

Hitherto the issue of the *pa-lestra* have been Marmol, Elizalde & Alsina. Now a new gladiator has entered the arena, and thus balanced the prestige of the two distinguished champions against whom Sr. Elizalde has been so long struggling single-handed. Dr. Rawson, so well known for his literary acquirements, brings a logical fund of information to bear upon the mooted question of "metropolis." He strives to throw oil upon the angry waters, by establishing the fact that the Assembly of Congress in this city, for the national re-construction, is a necessary step, fixed de facto, and, as such, must be retained. Placing aside, therefore, the eligibility of B. Ayres, he equitates on the necessity for prompt action, insisting that prolonged discussions are dangerous, and demanding along with the Government, an immediate sanction of the proposal to call at once on the Provincial Deputies to assemble and elect the authorities which are required to the late fallen functionaries.

Don Jose Marmol, in reply to his new antagonist, alleged the incompatibility of National rulers with provincial dignitaries in the same city, with perfect liberty of action for both. He treated as nominal those guarantees of provincial independence, secured to Buenos Ayres by the Constitution, and grounded his views on the high authority of Dr. Varela, the esteemed Argentine jurisconsult, who always maintained that the Capital of the Republic could never be in Buenos Ayres.

Sor. Alsina vindicated himself from the allusion of the Ministers, that he had entered on an extraneous subject, by showing that the meeting of Congress induced a secondary consideration the place of Assembly which *de facto* became in some manner the seat of Government.

Sr. Elizalde made a brief reply, and (it being near dinner hour) the Chamber was dismissed.

The Minister of Finance was absent.

The Proposed New Port of Buenos Ayres.

The present state of the so-called port of Buenos Ayres is such, that the expenses attending the loading and unloading of vessels are perfectly incredible to any person unacquainted with the business.

If, by any possibility, the thing could be remedied, it certainly ought, for besides these expenses, we have to pay for the lighters, for the unloading in lighters, as there is no other possible way of landing a ship's cargo.

We have neither docks, nor harbour, nor the slightest protection for shipping against the inclemencies of the weather, and the fact of the mouth of the roadstead of Buenos Ayres is no port at all, but merely a portion of the River Plate few miles distant from land.

How long this state of things is to last, we are at a loss to determine; one thing is clear, that, if it can be remedied, it should and ought.

Persons who are deeply interested in this question, contend that the best and only way is, to cut a short canal through the point of Santiago (which is scarcely a mile in length), and connect the main body of the River Plate with the already natural port of Ensenada, which is now capable, as it is, of receiving the largest ships, of containing many hundreds of the largest ships, having 21 feet depth of water.

Let it be observed, that a similar depth of water may be obtained at the opposite end of this canal, at a distance of fifty yards from the shore, which point ships can arrive without crossing bars or flats.

If by fifty yards a railway from Ensenada to the Buenos Ayrean Custom house, thence to San Fernando, and connecting it with river steam-boats, and from there through Tigre, Zarate, which opens into the Paraná, we have a safe port of delivery for European commerce, and a safe and economical accommodation conduct for the imports and exports of all the Upper Provinces. Thus will be obviated lighterage, carriage, and the expense of loading and unloading and discharging these carts, the immense loss of ships, whilst lying in the present port of Buenos Ayres, demurrage and damage to the cargoes, &c. Neither would there be necessity for insuring during the stay in port, which is at present a very heavy item.

This project would not, in the slightest manner, prejudice any railroad going South, but, on the contrary, being made in its very direction, would increase the freight and charges on rails, &c.

It is quite clear that something must be done in the matter, and the cheapest safest, and best plan is this projected canal through the point Santiago. If the Government take the matter in hand properly, and get a minute report from their Engineer, we may come to know at facts; although in public undertakings, of this kind, we regret to say that private influence is greatly used, to the detriment of National advancement. XX.

Follies of the Day.

The approach of Carnival has caused a number of fancy shops to spring into establishment, where, "a fancy an form divine" is clothed in all guises, ridiculous or majestic.

The Belgrano trotting-match has inspired our colleague to tap those Englishmen over the knuckles who were guilty the other night of laughing and enjoyment at the Belgrano theatre. Surely the "Commercial Times" forgets that it is a place of amusement where people are not expected to be grave with their tongue in their cheek, or clap indiscriminately, like puffers, every piece of acting, good, bad or indifferent.

The Belgrano trotting-match has been anything but a recreation to the Commercial Times, it has caused a regular windfall for the lawyers, and given rise to coarse and cross-cause in ludicrous antithesis. 1st. There is a citation issued against Dn. Adolfo Wilkinson, in the "Sala correccional" to which he opposes a set-off action against Don Alejandro Gelabert, before the Juez de 1.° Instancia.

Then again we hear his landlord has given him notice to quit, because his former friends have turned on him, and he is threatened with a suit for forgery. Mr. Crawell has assured us that he has in his possession documents to him, whilst on the other hand we have perused the written declaration of one who says he could and knew which other moreover state they have seen. A host of witnesses is brought up on either side, and, to speak truly, the parties have to consider a story that, were we appointed Judge, it would tax our discernment to say who is in fault. Meantime Don Adolfo has been told by some *veracious* friend that we had pre ented his article to Sr. Elizalde, although we have not the pleasure of that gentleman's acquaintance, and the Belgrano trotting match could be of little service to him in support of his Sonatorial arguments for making B. Ayres the metropolis.

Latest Intelligence.

The Senate held its fifth Session on Friday, Sr. Elizalde followed up his resignation with the significant question, what will become of Buenos Ayres if her army, her receipts, her finances are given up to the National authority? This occasioned a spirited dispute with the Minister of Warfare and Marine. The latter maintained that this Province should preserve all her attributes and constitutional rights.

Alsina dilated on his *points d'appui* of yesterday, repeating that no solid arrangement can be brought out in favour of making this the metropolis. He pretended to avoid further discussion, by declaring he would, but Elizalde demanded an exposition of his views, as well to combat them as those of the author of "Amalia."

The Government contract a loan his troops are, almost all, disbanded, although the Corrientines complain that they said keeps 200 men on their frontier.

Colonel Paz has pushed on rapidly towards Catamarca, leaving some of his baggage behind. Some doubts are entertained as to the truth of Penaloza's flight.

General Sr. Mitre has marched out of Rosario, for Rojas, with a force composing that garrison.

The elaborate solemnities for the lamented Mme. Portela Montesdeo on took place at San Miguel's, on Monday morning. Peace to her spirit! Yesterday the various fields of arms of the City Nat. Guards of the arms they to happily bore to the recent campaign. It is a pity that we do not see them also the uniform, thus "making virtue of a necessity", for we see the brass buttons at every street-corner.

Banda Oriental.

From our correspondent we learn that the Banda is gathered on the coast of the Rio Negro, to defend the Banda Oriental against the proposed invasion of Rosas. Rivera was based by 1500 banded. People *are* re-doling down out there, and turning their minds more to business.

The ships of paper, which pass for money in the country towns, are the cause of great annoyance to foreigners, who cannot comprehend how a public paper, which is a bank bill, is

This primeval way of getting change or "raising the wind," is ludicrous in the extreme, and the sooner the thing is abolished the better.

The camps are beginning to be stocked nearly as heavily as in Buenos Ayres. The land ever has been a most prosperous one for sheep-farmers, it nearly every pastido. Many persons having taken to live during the Southern Camps of Buenos Ayres, and to settle down on the picturesque and fertile coast of Uruguay.

The Uruguay river have an eternal grass, come what seed may, they are never bare, and warmer on all sides around, there no doubt are advantages, which the farmer can't pass over.

Sheep are daily going across, and, we understand, a considerable number doing well, from the day they land.

Still there is an impression, that sheep on the other side, don't do well as on this side, however, erroneous, they may be we can't say. But, judging from the number of sheep exported to Europe we think that it can only be from the notion of some prejudiced portefio

The wools this year fetched as good, and, in many cases, better prices than in Buenos Ayres, and in this case, we marked, by many wool buyers, that the bad colour, so prevalent this year in all Recos here, was a thing unknown in Montevideo.

National Schools.

In the turmoil of parliamentary debate, and universal revolution, there are few who, in their thoughts, turn the routine of our educational system. For some time the Minister of Instruction, Sr. Sarmiento, has been out in the campaign, and the Director of the Sernal de Escuelas is deprived of that guiding spirit which erst was wont to trim the lamp of learning in our classic city.

Now that the post is vacant, no lack will be had of competitors to fill the vacancy. The salary is good, the post an exalted one; but in the selection of candidates, Government has too often made a mistake, in preference to mere whose only recommendation is their excessive zeal for one or another political faction: when Government has not a sufficient claim, the faction claim, the facilitous interest of their "companeros" is called in, to weight down the balance against worthy, but untinctured, aspirants.

It seems as though our leading organs cannot agree on any one particular. Thus, while the Commercial Times, Doctor Bedoya as a fit and proper successor, while the "National" gives Revista Literaria to Don Hilario Moreno. We do not protend to name a candidate; but the names of Sastre, Larsen, and some others involuntarily rise to our recollection. The first, is Inspector of Schools, is chief *employe* of the Department, and thus in some manner entitled to the promotion, even his numerous school-books did not lay an additional claim to preferment. The second is justly esteemed a man of taste, having extensively studies through various fields of literature, and enriched our city publications with works of opposite kind.

Yet, as we cannot pretend to interfere with the local legislators in matters of their peculiar empire, we waive the claims of Sastre and Larsen. Taking up the two competitors at present in the field, we incline most decidedly for the claims of Dr. Bedoya. This gentleman is no foreign Academic experience; by birth an Argentine, he has filled successively the important trusts of Vice-Rector of the Cuenta Nacional, and Director of the Tarma Lyceum.

His profound course of studies has made him thoroughly acquainted, not merely with theological dogmas and metaphysical subtleties, but still more with the useful sciences and modern languages.

Dr. Bedoya has vulgarized Robertson's system for learning French and Eng ish: we have had the pleasure of examining these works, and unhesitatingly pronounce them unique. His "Christian Doctrine" is also extraordinarie. Thus, whether we regard his efforts at self-improvement, or labors for the instruction of others, it will be difficult to discredit his fitness for the Direction of our National Schools.

The Rev. candidate is a man of liberal opinions; his mind has been enlarged by the knowledge derived from extended travel, and by the natural grace of manners, which unquestionably belongs to Argentines, has received a higher polish from coming in contact with the various fashions of society met with in Europe and the U. States.

One thing, says the *National* is against Dr. Bedoya: is not the *alter ego* of Sarmiento. He has traveled, but not published his Roadside Jottings. Alas! this is unfortunately Sarmiento's fault, for, who has not read "Sarmientiadie"?

We therefore conclude by impressing on our colleagues and the Government, the importance necessary of choosing a worthy man of letters to succeed the late esteemed Minister. Our city has been rocked by the clash from actively abetting the Liberal cause, yet his services by the pen are more valuable than some of the swords flashed at Tucuman or Cuida Corrientes. Dr. B. has so gilt-edged book of travels to record the idiosyncracies of a passing nation, yet he brings a fund of valuable information to assist him in an arduous duty.

We feel additional pleasure in recommending our second friend, the Rev. Doctor, as we have spent many agreeable hours watching his process of compilation and learning to estimate the fruits of energy, intellect and perseverance when combined in an active a subject. Others may have given higher claims of the present dignity, but, from our personal acquaintance with the Doctor and his works we emphatically say that he will grace the post whom we want, the Government intends to offer him.

The Banking System in Buenos Ayres.

The Banking system at present in operation in this city is of such an extraordinary nature, that it is with difficulty it can be properly defined.

It is, however, erroneous, to say, that the Bank in this city (since any company or institution of a banking nature, forming the subject of this article, cannot properly be termed a Bank, but rather bankers, such as the Messrs. Mauk and Co). There exists, therefore, no bank in this city, the sole vesting the privilege of issuing paper money, and that is the Casa de Moneda.

The Bank combines, with the same department, a sort of savings Bank department, which is, of itself, a novelty. It also has a sort of mortgaging department, that is, lends out money for long periods on Real estate, a business which properly belongs to a land or trust or trader than a bank; and, that not least, it has the regular Banking department, which is the discounting of bills, &c., at short date, for the convenience of its customers, and its own benefit.

We can't complain of its buying and selling of Real estate, because we know the Bank in the world is engaged in the same business; but such business should be extremely limited, else the public suffer by permitting any heavy amount of capital to influence the market, to the prejudice of others.

Neither can we complain of its lending money on bond and mortgage, because, strictly speaking, it is not this neither the power nor the right to invest in any un-negotiable security. Still, this is but a trifle in comparison with the gales against which the present Banking system inflicts on the industrial resources and entire commercial prosperity of Buenos Ayres.

The Bank of Buenos Ayres enjoys from the public a monopoly, and this is prejudicial to the best interests of the country, for, it keeps, by its interinstitutions of a like character from starting into existence, and on a sounder footing. Nor can man with so say that one Bank is sufficient for the wants and necessities of a commercial city of 120,000 inhabitants; yet, here it is virtually the fact. The consequence is, that all business transactions are of a small, limited nature, the best interests of the country are retarded from the want of capital, and to get a bill discounted, even with the best city name, requires such formalities as would scare the best man of capital or independence will conde-

tited by its non-existence—persons who have built up capital at the expense of their neighbours. Capitalists, coming from such quarters are not worthy of attention.

Buenos Ayres Cricket Club.

Our cricketing countrymen, being determined to avail themselves of the Carnival, for a day's diversion to their national pastime, have agreed to play a match on Monday March 3rd. The contending parties are the *married* and *single*: this alone, we should imagine, must insure it an enhanced interest in the eyes of those fairy tempters who may incline us to one or the other category. Of course the fair sex will muster strong; on the ground, to witness the exciting game, and lend their sympathy for the bachelors, victory. Even venerable spinsters, naturally fond of match-making, would derive pleasure from a *match* of double wicket. Young fellows, native or foreign, might also see their charmers to better advantage on the field, than running the gauntlet of an aqueous volley which were enough to cool the most ardent affection.

For those whom love or glory may not incite, Epicurus offers a first-rate dinner and Bacchus sends some hundreds of choice Falernian. The heavy (who are sure to be the married men) will pay the roast; all the expences falling on them, it is probable they shall get a certain lecture into the bargain.

The grounds of the "Rifleros" will be the rendez-vous, and at 10 A. M. wickets will be pitched.

The following Gentlemen are chosen to play:

MARRIED.

1. F. Parish Esq.
2. J. C. Simpson "
3. J. Darbyshire "
4. F. Wanklyn "
5. E. Twinthal "
6. J. H. Green "
7. E. Isard "
8. E. Simons "
9. F. Robinson "
10. A. Marcos "
11. " "

SINGLE.

1. H. Simpson Esq.
2. E. Darbyshire "
3. M. Cripps "
4. J. H. Hoston "
5. S. Gotting "
6. H. Glover "
7. L. J. Isaac "
8. M. Anderson "
9. R. Cooper "
10. W. Barker "
11. H. Marshall "

TRAVELS IN PERU AND BOLIVIA.

CHAP. X.

General Sucre.

The Congress hall is a very handsome building, which I visited at one of the sittings of its members: there were a few amongst them who had evidently studied the qualities of a speaker; for, they altered the tone and pitch of their voice, as the occasion and subject required. I heard several good speeches on civil liberty, which were delivered with fluency, emphasis and spirit. The custom of sitting, while speaking, lessens the effect which would otherwise, be produced, particularly as their favourite and inevitable theme, the rights of their country, which, since its emancipation from the Spanish yoke, are constantly involved in a labyrinth of difficulties, from the little respect they pay to their laws and to those of the neighbouring state.

I was introduced to General Sucre, the President of Bolivia, during my stay in this town. He person he is tall, graceful, and of mild prepossessing manners: he is a man of considerable talent, and has acquired fame both as a soldier and a statesman: he discharges the duties of his station with incessant diligence, and possesses the rare and peculiar gift of being able to dictate to four and five *amanuenses* with the same rapidity as they can write down his expressions. On entering upon the duties of his office, he found the finances of the State in an exhausted condition, from the war that had raged for nearly a quarter of a century, and which he had the happiness to bring to a conclusion. In the midst of the difficulties of an unenviable position, and whilst endeavouring to promote the welfare of the country he was suddenly surprised by an act of treason. A sedition broke out among the troops—those hardy veterans and companions of his triumphs, with whom he had fought in many a hard-contested battle: he immediately rode to the scene of tumult accompanied by Colonel Infante, his minister of war, and an *aide-de-camp*. On entering the gate of the barracks, he was received by a volley of musketry, which struck him in the shoulder and arm; and, thus wounded and bleeding he was conveyed to the palace.

The report of his assassination spread rapidly abroad, and the palace was surrounded and filled with visitors, mind whom, undisguised, were the principal conspirators, who, elated with the hope that their crime had succeeded, did that their unfortunate victim had ceased to exist, anxiously waited the reward of their treason. They suffered, however, a cruel vexation and surprise; there still lived, though bleeding from his wounds. "The fatal bullet had yet to be moulded," and the number of his days still unaccomplished. He was soon informed of the authors of the sedition, amongst whom was his secretary—the conspirator—his Brutus; and learned that gold had been distributed to corrupt his troops, who now repented and implored his pardon. He suffered for several months from the effects of his body, but still more acutely from those of the mind. He could not forgive the treachery of those who, in the garb of friendship, and with a smile of confidence, had cruelly betrayed him, and, silently, resolved to retire from the thankless office of a supreme Ruler, to the peaceful tranquillity of a private life. He sent in his resignation to the Congress, and shortly after left Sucre for Cusco, in Venezuela, the place of his birth.

Sucre was gified with generous and, even, magnanimous sentiments, which are strongly displayed in his message to the Congress, in which he states: I have always observed as a rule in politics, that, there is neither hatred, nor friendship, nor any other duties to fulfil, save those that tend to the happiness of the subject. The Constitution makes me inacusable: I beseech you to divest me of that prerogative. If any member can prove that I have infringed upon a law; I respectfully ask for its sentence.

On taking his farewell of the Congress, he addressed that body in the following terms: During my government of the state, I have never occasioned a Bolivian woman either to be a widow, nor an orphan to weep, or obtain the fruits of the Independence and the organization of the country: I have pardoned many a criminal condemned to death: my rule has been marked with clemency, tolerance, and kindness. I shall be, probably, blamed for my mildness, as the origin of my wounds; but, I shall remain contented with them, if my successors will consider, that, in Bolivia, with equal lenity, to obey the laws without the clash of arms threatening their lives, and the liberty of their country. In the retirement of a private life, I will look upon my scars, and shall not repent of bearing them, on reflecting, that I preferred the observance of the laws to the despotism of a tyrant, with a sword ever pendant over the heads of the citizens.

It is a strange coincidence that the founders of the Peruvian Empire, and the Republic of Bolivia, the Conquerors of the Indians and of the Spaniards, should have met, in the same fatal month, with a similar end: Pizarro was assassinated on the 26th of June 1541, by Almagro and his party, at his Palace in Lima; Sucre, in Berrueco, a Province of Pasto, on the 4th of June 1830, by a party in an ambuscade. He was in his 37th year. Thus perished two of the most remarkable men in the annals of Peru.

Montevideo.

In the "Nacion" of the 19 inst. we find the Board of Health has passed a regulation forbidding the manufacture of starch, soap, candles, &c. within the immediate precincts of the town. A term varying from 30 to 90 days is allowed for each of these establishments to shift quarters, the waters flowing from them being found highly prejudicial.

The police found a horse with some milk-cans, the owner being unknown, but, on the bottom of one of the cans, some way had written "non est inventus." The 19th was the day of mourning with the British residents. Sr. Castellanos has been elected President of the Senate.

Sr. Santos Pereira is performing at sleight-of-hand feats before the Orientals, at the Portenos did not attend his efforts. Two young men, named Perez, have been arrested on the charge of carrying off a girl, named Juana Reyes, aged sixteen, and keeping her two days in a peach-mount.

By latest dates from Montevideo, we perceive the project of a law enabling Government to collect revenue from foreign vessels, which hitherto has not been collected, from an idea that it would only realise $ 3000 and odd dollars. But it appears the custom-house officers are becoming wider awake now-a-days, since they affirm that such a duty would, at the lowest calculation, realize 36000 fee-tes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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HORSE-STEALING.

To the Editor of the Standard.

SIR,—

Horse-stealing in the Camp has always been a *desiring* business, but, latterly, it has become more frequent, generally, that it necessarily leads to the supposition that it is now more lucrative, or otherwise that the "Knights of the Lasso" are more numerous and expert:—which of the two we will leave in the hands of those whose business it should be to ascertain. What we affirm is that the evil exists, and exists in such a degree as to loudly call for a remedy. In the partido of Arrecifes, Capilla, and Pilar, cases have been left without a horse; exceptional, and more than lucky, is the man who has only lost one or two within the last two months.

As a proof of the little fear the robbers have, we may cite the following instance: A few nights since, one of those industrious knights got over the patio wall of the Justice of Peace's house, in Pilar, took the horse that was in the yard, opened the gate (which was merely bolted on the inside), and marched off with his prize. This, in England, would be styled a daring robbery, but here it will scarcely deserve the dignity of a *gauchada*.

It is a well-known fact, that those stolen horses are sold as slaves, generally for fifty dollars each; hence the frequency of the robbing system. A man who resides in another to one district, drives them ten or twelve leagues, quickly finds a customer by distributing them, in two's or three's, to farmers who are in want of such horses, from having had their own steady stolen, more than likely by the same party who now claims the others for sale; or, if not, he sells them in a batch to those who supply the diligence with horses; he also finds a ready customer in *contractors to fast*. In the new Fiscal yet in office?

Without being professed arithmeticians, we can understand that a man who can obtain 500$ for driving a few horses a few leagues, without any risk, or loss of time, and, at the cost of time (which is at most only two days), is what a Yankee would call getting a-head; and as that time is snatched to the business it must be admitted that the speculation is worthy of even more encouragement than that it already gets. There can be no doubt, that the principal speculators in this sort of business are those hordes of regular precise wise stacoolies, who called to the service of their country during the late war, while the country only should have called upon to protect was in danger, they kept close and were consequently harmless except to those who lived in the immediate vicinity of their abodes, and *lives* where the cowards took refuge; but now that they are allowed to go at large with much liberty and freedom, as those who have left the ranks of the lege, on the battle field, they let us feel that that gang, called the "regement of Pelaez" are still in existence: they now strut with more haughtiness than ever as they have again practically proved, that the conquerors of Peron yet too weak to conquer them; they, publicly quiz those poor soldiers who have been wounded in battle and call them "*Los Pavos de Peron*" strange that the government would allow itself to be bullied by a set of worthless men for the mere trifling, nor costly.

The local authorities have no instructions respecting those men and without special instructions they will not attempt to apprehend—or, the greater the ruffian the less likely to be apprehended. If the government is not in want of veteran troops why not make those men (who never work and have no means of living except by plunder) do the public works; there is no country in the world that employ many hands in making bricks, for instance, to build schools, prisons, or other public buildings, and the authorities pretend to ignore this state of things, we plainly and loudly tell them that they do so willingly; that they are aware of it no one questions, for it is palpable to every resident in the camp.

There are numerous hute dissemination through the country, where there are three or four men, twice as many women, and five times as many children live, crowded together: it is to be supposed that those persons, having no stock, maintain themselves by labour; not at all: put the question to any farmer, and he will tell you that the majority of these men will refuse to work at thirty dollars a day, and the farmers will tell you that when she requires a servant she must get one from town or do the work herself. How then, you ask, do those families, so numerous and so poor, live? Very easily understood; by stealing a cow at night they supply themselves with meat, there is no difficulty in disposing of the hides by giving it for half-value. And when they want to speculate on a large scale they steal horses and sell them, as we have already shown.

But crimes of this kind, which never will be entirely eradicated, do not amount to one-tenth of the offences upon which Law and Justice have every day to adjudicate. Nine-tenths of the criminals who plague and puzzle the camp are rendered criminal by the extreme poverty caused by their own idleness and extreme ignorance; and poverty and ignorance are so intimately associated that they continually react upon each other. If we take one hundred of this class we shall find that not one in ten has received more than the commencement of reading, and that one-half to two-thirds are but little removed from the condition of Indians. If there be a difference, it is, perhaps, that they have the vices of civilisation, superadded to the peculiar vices of a lower stat of society.

Among this class of persons, whose full grown, there is but rarely any reformation. But if taken young—if cared for in the tender years of their infancy—if instruction were compulsory—if made to know and to feel, as they advance into adolescence, that it is as much their duty to avail themselves of education as it is to walk erect, the next generation would not present us with one-tenth the number of criminals that now afflict us.

The existing generation should be dealt with in the meantime. It is very doubtful whether they can be reformed, from the difficulty or impossibility of conforming to the habits of an industrious and sober life.

But, it is very possible that they could be made useful in improving and embellishing those very towns of which they have become the burden as well as the reproach.

DICK.

COMMERCIAL REVIEW.

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Market Report.

Friday, 21 Feb. '62.

Something has been doing in the South Plaza. A quantity of dry hides was disposed of at 125 $. Sheepskins are selling at 20 $ for Pickled, and 15 $ for Salted. Tallow is quoted at 16 $ for "Once de Saltiera" but probably there is even less activity than in the other market.

The Revista says the bad weather helped with the bad times to depress all transactions. The "Revista" reports two sales of salted ox-hides—1,000 at. 47½ rts—5,000 at. 47.

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FREIGHTS.

Brit. barque "Bells of Devon" to load hides or tallow in the Uruguay to order, at 60 s. and 5 0/0.

Vessels are finding freight at last. We observe that every vessel that leaves a port, exchange will always be again us; but we hope the day is not to distant when every vessel leaving the port will, instead of bringing back gold ounces and bills, carry with her bales of wool, hides, &c., equivalent to the value of the goods which she has brought: then, indeed, Buenos Ayres will be on the high road to prosperity.

The Exports of wool and hides this week have been very small, and the freights can't be complained of. In few years, we prophesy seven or eight hundred sail will be required to carry the produce of Buenos Ayres to Europe.

The saddest sight in a seaport city is, each week to see vessel after vessel, leaving the harbour in ballast, more particularly when we bear in mind the expensive nature of that ballast, and which in Europe is intrinsically worth nothing.

The, we regret to say, has been the shipping interest in the port of Buenos Ayres.

With difficulty a vessel ever found cargo at a good freight, or even at any freight at all, and unless the master or consignees were willing to ship cargo purely on their own account, the only alternative, left them, was to go to Montevideo for ballast, since to proceed with ballast was too expensive.

There can be no doubt whatever that the exports of this country are increasing, and will increase. We sincerely hope so, and that the days are numbered when masters of vessels shall not have reason to regret their voyage to Buenos Ayres.

X.X.

Monday, 24th Feb.

The sales of produce which have taken place during the last few days have been small and unimportant. One small lot of wool, on Saturday, brought 97$; but this may be regarded as the outside price, since any price over 90$ is with difficulty obtained.

As a general rule, we may remark that much more animation exists in the North Plaza than in the South. This may be attributed to the overweening influence of one or two buyers, who would do Sheep Farmers completely in their grasp, which is most unfair; but this state of things can't long exist.

Hides are selling at 126$ the dessada. The tone of the hide book with some anxiety to the news by the coming mail steamer. We earnestly trust that it will be good, and that our friends in the country shall realize a benefit in the end, by having stored their wool.

Tuesday, 24th Feb. 1862.

A "revival" has taken place in the South Plaza: there is a fair stock of wool in the market, and prices are declined to be brisk. Several lot were sold in small quantities not exceeding 5 carts, at prices ranging from 50 to 90 $. Hides were standing at 125 $, very few being sold. Sheepskins were firm at 20 $ for the usual figure, being, as in last quotation, up to 150 $. Horse-hair in very good demand and 102 to 103, with a tendency upward.

VESSELS SAILED DURING THIS MONTH, WITH CARGO.

Nat. sc	Reina del Sud, for London	
Brit. bk	Flor del Plata, Liverpool	
"	Rosetta	"
"	Oliver	"
Aus. bg	Eugenia, Antwerp	
Ital	Americo	"
Dan. bk	Fortunata	"
" sc	Peregrine	"
"	Helena	"
Mec. bg	Aug. von Fronchin	"
Dan. sc	Maria	"
Fr. bk	Tres d'Agen	"
Ital. bg	Tomasina	"
Dan. sc	Challenger	"
Dut. "	Onnmelanden	"
Dan. bg	Carolina	"
Ital	Na. Diana	"
Dut. "	Treckvogl, Rotterdam	
Fr. sh	Georgine, Havre	
"	Concordia	"
"	St. Francois	"
"	Madras	"
Fr. bk	St Germain, Bordeaux	
"	Ben Peron	"
Fr. bg	Phoebus, Marseilles	
Nat. sh	29 de Setiembre	"
Fr. bg	Caroline, Cette	
Sp. bg	Felix, Spain	
Sp. bg	Principe	"
Ital. "	Nuevo Giulia, Genoa	
"	Carolina	"
Ham. bg	Ed. and Elise, Boston	
Amer. sc	E. Cushing	
Sp. sh	Rosario, Havana	
"	Hortenun	"
"	Metronia	"
" bg	Eolo	"
Port "	Luis 3rd, Brazil	
Sp. "	Ma. Ulorena	"
Brz. "	Penguin	"

VESSELS LOADING IN THE PORT OF BUENOS AYRES.

Brit. bk	Euxine, for London.
" bg	Wonder, "
" "	Merchant "
" bk	Jean Taylor, for L'pool.
" "	Borneo, "
" "	Neptune "
" "	James Carthy "
" "	Wellington "
" "	Queen Bee "
" bg	Tyne "
" bk	John Mart "
" "	La Gorgone "
Old. sc.	J. A. Becker, England.
Brit. bk	Arethusa "
" sh	Persian "
Ham. bk	Malvina Schult, Antwerp
Fr. "	Lieut. Bellot "
Dut. sc	Argo "
Ital. bk	Quisappina "
Ham. sc	Johannes "
Fr. bk	Ernest & Blanche "
Nat. bk	Carolina "
Brem. bk	Lavinia "
Ital. "	Adelaida "

WILLIAM CUNLIFFE,

age about 23 years, came to this country in 1854; father resided at Blackburn, in England.

The above-named person is requested to call at, or send his address to, this office; or any person who can give information respecting him.

FRANK PARISH.

H.B.M Consul.

Brit Consul. to Rosario, Paraná.

...end to trouble such as we pay upathia ...institution.

It is all very well to say that the so-...ent plan is the best, and that, as we have gone along so well with the old Bank, we won't try any new ones. But the thing is, we have not gone on so very well: — a few individuals, no doubt, may have made colossal fortunes under the old regime, but the great ...lic, — the unfortunate public,— are the sufferers. We speak not now of the depreciation in the value of paper money. By its means; bit of the total absence of capital through the country, etc, &c., where it can be so well and usefully invested.

A proper, well regulated joint stock *limited liability* Bank, is, and for many years past, has been, wanting in this City, yet members be quite satisfied 12 in number: Aguero, Alcorta, Albarello, Roch, Cano, Cazo, Elizalde, Pragnoto, Pierce (Blas), Pico (Francisco), Pineda, Rawson.

Against the measure were 6: Alsina, Alvarez, Marmol, Otamendi, Saavedra, Zapiola.

The majority, in favour of Elizalde's motion, was hailed with loud and long continued applause. Most of those present regarded the vote as an admission of the Congress to this city, and that it was a temporary measure, but as the fixed and permanent seat of government. Hence the fierce opposition made to it, which is its simple wording seemed to express nothing more than what the other provinces had already granted. It is expected that the Representatives will throw out the 1st Art., which reads thus:—

"General Mitre is hereby authorised to accept and exercise the extraordinary powers delegated him by the Provinces: as also to invite and nominate the Ministers of the Nation in a Congress *to be holden whenever he may think prop.*"

Funeral obsequies of Madame Portela Montesdoca

Last week, death snatched from among us one of the fairest and tenderest flowers that Nature had reared in this Southern clime. Felicita Portela, born of an influential family, united all the kindly dispositions of her noble father, with a winning grace and superior accomplishments, which captivated all who had the felicity to be acquainted with her. Scarcely were the garments of her bridal laid aside, ere the cruel malady which afflicted Dr. Portela carried him to the glomy cloister of the tomb. Deeply did we sympathise with the bereaved family, in their first sad bereavement to be introduced to in Buenos Ayres, but the decree of Providence came not unexpectedly, and the blow was tempered by anticipation. Terrible, in all its intensity, is the affliction which has now overwhelmed the weeping mother and disconsolate husband. A sudden illness (probably heart-disease), seized the blooming girl, on whose life was hopeless to shower its choicest blessings, and despite the aids of medical skill, she was in less than 30 hours an inanimate corpse.

On Monday morning, in obedience to an invitation from the family, we repaired to the church of San Miguel to pay the last mournful tribute of respect to the memory of the virtuous deceased.

The temple was draped in mourning, and crowdled with the numerous friends of both families, before the high altar a hundred wax lights shed their subdued brilliancy on the catafalque, and, amongst the other rites were offering up the Holy Sacrifice in expiation of the departed soul. Ranged down the nave was a double file of the funeral guests, among which we perceived General Gelly, D. Julian Portela, Jr., Montesdoca, Mr. R. Newton, Sr. Llavallol, Sr. Llambi, Doctor Conyngham, D. Mariano Varela, D. Dudemaine, Sr. Alvarez, Col. Dillon, Cap Kelly, Mr. Wineberg &c.

The reverend celebrant was Canon Piñero, and the Diocesan chapter, with the Franciscan Friars officiated. The Requiem was intoned, and the "Responses" given, with grand effect. Every one present appeared to be impressed with the sad solemnity of the rite, and many an eye was moistened with the tear of affection, as the coffin was reverently cut off in the prime of youth. During the service, lighted candles, according to custom, were held by all the gentlemen, and at its conclusion, their blowing out forcibly typified the quenching of that flickering flame which burned so brightly, but alas! too briefly.

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provinces, who had voted full power to our Governor, were expecting our decision, this being the first time, since Dorrego's death, that the whole Argentine Republic has been in alliance with Buenos Ayres.

The Governor of Paraná asked if we were prepared to excite suspicion in the provinces, by refusing to conform to the decree, which ordered that Mitre should re-construct the Nation. To this Marmol replied that the metropolis was beyond suspicion; that it was beyond Mitre's power, and consequently only determined by Congress.

Elizalde followed up by calling for a division which he characterised as a vote of confidence or distrust respective elect, of the people.

The members who supported Government, were the following, amounting 12 in number: Aguero, Alcorta, Albarello, Roch, Cano, Cazo, Elizalde, Pragnoto, Pierce (Blas), Pico (Francisco), Pineda, Rawson.

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The celebrating clergyman having retired, the congregation gradually dispersed, and as each of the invited passed through the porch, he shook hands with the bereaved parents, who stood on the right hand of the door.

Thus ended the last *memento* of one who was an ornament to her sex, station, and country. Her spirit has passed from this lower sphere, but the hold which it graced, her smile is fixed in the rigidness of death, her charms are lost to earth for ever. Yet her spirit has gone to a better home, and the remembrance of her charms will serve as a model for mothers to hold up to their children. If the sympathy of friends can avail aught, or a passing word, in a foreign tongue, to assuage the grief of her bereaved family, then our panegyric of Felicia is well timed. The Greeks used to say, "Those the gods love, die young;" and we must bow to Providence, whose decrees are for the best.

She, who had lived the life of an angel, is gone to the mansions of the just, to intercede for those weeping friends who are left behind. This is a soothing consolation, inspired by Christianity, which induced St Paul to exclaim.

O Grave where is thy victory!
O Death where is thy sting.

(R. I. P.)

The Senate—Another Victory

On Saturday, the Senators held another Session touching that part of the Bill proposed by Government, which had not yet received their sanction. Sr. Marmol, nowise daunted by the late adverse vote of 2 to 1, continued his opposition by bringing in an amendment to the proposed article. Sr. Elizalde rebutted his arguments in the same strenuous vein of eloquence.

Several speeches were delivered for, and against, the Government; but less difficulty was experienced in securing a majority for the clause than for the previous one. Whereas the first question of "capital" occupied five sessions, the second, relating to National expenditure, has been passed in the first sitting.

The law, therefore, subject to the Representatives' decision, stands thus:—

Art. 1. Governor Mitre is hereby authorised to receive and exercise the extraordinary powers already conferred, or yet to be conferred, on him by the Argentine provinces; also to summon a National Congress wherever he may think fit.

Art. 2. Governor Mitre is, moreover, at liberty to set apart any sums for the National expenses that may be required; and to manage Foreign relations, pending the re-organization of the Republic.

It remains to be seen whether the Representatives will presume to reject a subject which has now been affirmed by their venerable brethren of the Upper Chamber. Many expect a defeat of the Ministry in this matter, and although our own opinions are with the Senators, we fear the battle has to be fought over again, under serious difficulties.

Washington's Birthday.

We cannot allow the 22nd of February, 1862, to pass by, without a few hurried lines, although at other periods it would have afforded a share of a pleasure than a duty, to write *a memoriam* of so great a man.

Times, however, have changed, and men and nations also; and a theme which, in former years, was surrounded with such pleasing associations, is, we regret to say, to-day the poignant source of grief, sorrow, and shame.

But it is the inevitable result which is disregard of the immutable laws of Nature. Providence extends upon fallen man. The Supreme Being, by a strict and rigid observance of every sentence contained in the almost immutable laws of Nature, has raised the memory we commemorate, climbed, as it were, almost to the summit of mankind's ambition.

The world grieved with awe on a nation which has had no parallel in its gigantic strides in commerce and civilisation. Each year brought new states into existence, and new land into cultivation. North and South, East and West, all harmonised in a brotherly union, obeying the mandates of the "Father of their country."

Americans of every shade smiled at the dark prophecies of European statesmen, and laughed to scorn their want of faith in institutions which had virtually proved a reality, and had been the dream of man since the days of Homer.

Idolized, reverenced, and esteemed by all the true republicans of the world, the American nation thrived under the influence of human benevolence, and the cool reason of every upright and honest man. It was indeed, without exaggeration, the pride of humanity.

But, if it had friends, alika had its enemies, both at home and abroad. The monarchs of Europe filed to disguise their hatred and jealousy to a government which possessed so sensible the hearts and affections of their own subjects, but those governments were powerless, so long as the American people, themselves, remained true to their principles and institutions, so dearly bought and consecrated by the blood of their forefathers.

Vain would be the effort of any pretending power, to attempt to make war against a country possessing such resources as the United States, and backed up by the integrity of its statesmen and the patriotism of its inhabitants. The very idea is ridiculous. Combination of European powers, except on a past occasion, would probably affect either the country or its government; for the elements of discord are so powerful, American, not European, dimensions.

But that which no European power, or even combination of powers, could effect, the Americans themselves are striving to accomplish.

Whether it is that a few *Benedicts Arnolds* have crept into the Republic, or that foreign gold has wrought the misfortunes which now so lamentably exist, or that the American people, ceasing to regard the bidding of him who built them up,—ceasing to regard their political morality and integrity as the basis of their all, have cast down upon themselves the inevitable retribution with which Just Providence visits the crime of men, we will not take upon ourselves to say; but we are the subject of these lines to start up from the grave on this 22nd of February, and what we see, is, the Americans, hoist of armed men within half of half every tomb,—fire and devastation, death and sorrow, in his once peaceful and happy country:—President against President without a President. And did the shades of this Illustrious Man, look down with sorrow at such an appalling sight, fly, in horror, his country altogether, as unworthy of his ashes; and seek some foreign resting shelf, it would be hoped he would visit some place where the commemoration of his name would not be the source of barbarous sarcasms,—where the memory and character of this unequalled man is not unanimously sneered at with broken bottles and indecent commotion. *O tempora! o mores!*

XX.

The New Generation.

A Man's a progressive animal—human nature's ameliorated—Lecture Lecture.

Advancement is a natural impulse of mankind, co-existent with every age since the world began. Our first parents were badly off for clothing; the Israelites had no artillery at the siege of Jericho; Jacob and Tobias made their excursions on foot, for want of mail-coaches; Job could not even read the morning-paper while his wife was in the kitchen; Sampson burned down the Philistine territory, because they had no fire-engines.

Again, Philip of Macedon refused a magnificent horse, there being no Grecian Rarey to tame it; Paris Helen, since Troy could not boast of a Divorce Court; Hercules slew the Grecian, instead of putting him up in a Zoological Garden; and Cadmus invented letters, without understanding short-hand.

Later we find Julius Cæsar robbing the Bank, when he might have asked for an emission of paper money, to pay his way; Hannibal lost an eye, in his Alpine tour, not knowing the use of spectacles; Grachus was ousted, in the elections, because he had no "Club" to support him; and Cromwell was fought in the Colosseum, because Titus had forgotten to put up dress boxes.

If these mistakes and privations have been experienced from time immemorial, during 6,000 years, it is clear that there is always room for improvement in human institutions.

"Progress" is, and has been, the order of the day since Diogenes taught Alexander how to use of mind, down to our own time when Brunel applied steam-power to Noah's ark. Europe, the centre of civilization, has not only made gigantic strides in the onward path, but diffused, throughout the spirit of refinement through the attermost regions of Earth.

The shores of America were, from time immemorial, the inheritance of the savage beast or scarce less savage Indian. What Columbus first initiated as an Apostle of Science, the genius of later settlers has matured, and now we may expect to reap the fruits of their labors.

In speaking of Buenos Ayres, the townsfolk are wont to say, that they have been a long time in the city. Yet are we, in truth, very backward. Twenty centuries ago the Greeks or Romans should have condemned this town as uninhabitable for want of water—Rivers, fresh water springs, without aqueducts, without canals, without copious rains, we are driven to satisfy the cravings of thirst by taking river-water: a thing unheard of in any civilized country. Nor is it only river-water, but a rich adulteration of the city-drains, soap-suds, horse-bath, blige-water, and bodily impurities which is deemed by this inhabitants a wholesome beverage.

Robbing and flowing with the current, generally stagnant and offensive, the shallow-waters of the Plata present a spectacle of glossy bosom a fund of corruption and filth, enough to cause an universal plague. A hot summer's sun, acting upon this liquid surface, generates a thousand infectious vapors, to the detriment of our health and comfort.

It is a disagreeable experiment to bottle a small quantity of river-water for only two days: on unscrewing it, there is like the smell of assafœtida, but the effects, if taken, are much worse. Any rational man must wonder how a city of 120,000 inhabitants can tolerate, in the 10th century, such a dying plague. Cost what it may, we are in duty bound to provide fresh water for ourselves, and for those who come after us. If no reformation take place, then, indeed, we shall gradually become accustomed to the pestilence around us; but a just Providence will be sure to send us the yellow fever as a chastisement of our laziness. Twenty years ago Rio Janeyro was a healthy port; and twenty years hence, by drinking dirty water, our blood shall begin to rot in our veins, Buenos Ayres will become a plague-spot, and our very name will be held in odium by the new generation.

San Fernando Railroad Co.

With much pleasure, we perceive that at last, this company is beginning operations.

The enterprise has not altogether met with fair play, owing greatly to individual mismanagement; but we congratulate it on having changed hands, and hope now that its future is brightening.

The present contractor is of European reputation, and we have every confidence that, as he has undertaken the work, it will now be carried out in a masterly way.

No line of railroad, either proposed or existing, has the prospects of the San Fernando, simply arising from the fact that it runs through the only proper suburban locality of the city of Buenos Ayres.

In the history of railroad enterprise in the United Kingdom, none have surpassed the Dublin and Kingstown, in point of a good dividend-paying company.

Its expenses, in comparison with other roads, are trifling, its business steady, and never subject to severe fluctuations; and we hazard the assertion that, although other roads may do more business, none (for the distance run, and capital invested,) has ever paid better.

The business of the Dublin and Kingstown is, we may say, identical with the San Fernando, inasmuch as all along the road it has a line of coast of the most surpassing beauty, with enchanting River scenery, every way adapted for country seats, villas and parks.

The great want which exists in this city is a proper outlet for the recreation of the public, in the shape of public parks.

In every town of importance, the public have their parks for exercise and agreeable recreation, on holidays, &c., but in the city of Buenos Ayres, there is none, unless we count the Bull. We are informed, upon an authentic source, the Gov. entertain the idea of converting some of the public lands, between this city and San Fernando, into a Park, on the completion of the Road.

This would add tenfold to the business of the company, and, under proper management, there can be no doubt that, in a very few years, the road ought to pay for itself.

The worst about these railroads in South America is, the total want of management, and inaccurate or no, keeping the accounts: we hope the San Fernando will take a lesson from these facts.

The present railroad in operation here is doing an enormous business: yet we hear nothing about dividends, and venture to say that 500 shares thrown on the Bolsa or Exchange would hardly fetch 50 per cent. below par. Such is the miserable state of things yet it is really so. No man can doubt of the business which a railroad from this city to San Fernando will do, for he can satisfy himself by looking at the loaded diligences which every day come and go. But we do doubt that, if the South American plan, of once in every ten years giving a thorough report to the proprietors and public of the business, will advance the company's interest, or rise the value of the stock on Change.

Every year there should be a public meeting of the stockholders, with the engineers, secretary's, and manager's reports, and this report should be carefully got up and printed, for the information of all those interested in the business.

No such thing is known here, and we hope that the San Fernando Railroad Company, which has already gained the good wishes of the public at large in this city, will begin by setting a good example.

XX.

Chit-chat.

Yesterday at 11 A. M. the San Fernando Line, after two years' management, which, in fact, being only properly resuscitated in due formality with speechifying, champagne &c. The Governor & Ministry will treat us to their opinions. Tickets of invitation must be presented.

Some cre fibers of Don F. Leon Marmoz chose to spend his time in gambling and other such frailties, alleging that he pocketed nine millions, mis within a short time gone.

The Amer. Minister, Hon. J. Cushman, has arrived on board the Pulaski, in very infirm health; we hope to see him on the mend in a few days.

Sig. Manzoni will auction off all his pictures, to-morrow, at Fusoni's. Sr. Fusoni will appear with his hammer at 2 p. m.

The row at the Roma Hotel has been greatly exaggerated. No person was hurt, except the one who had his ankle, and the other his nose, put out of joint: it seems the Southern ejected a Yankee, Rivers present, and drank the champagne of the latter to "Jeff. Davis & Secession"

The marking of cattle.

We are glad to perceive the Government has, at last, hit the nail on the head, and put a stop to the wholesale robbery which, under the pretence of right, is, and has been, committed during the last 4 years, namely, marking cattle during the ecrsa.

To many of our readers unequainted with camp affairs, this is, of course, a subject of little or no interest, but we feel we glad to hear that, at last, in the 11th hour, the arm of the law has stretched out to protect them.

For the last 3 or 4 years there has been a most systematic robbery carried on, on a very large scale, by the Estancieros of our acquaintance, who has 4 rodeos of cattle, and in former years regularly averaged his 1,000 and odd calves, all duly marked 1862.

Now this is a positive, undeniable fact owning to the "epidemics," the pitiable wander about in this unfeeling country, roaming at large in search of grass and water, just like the Buffaloes in the Prairies of North America, the only difference being, that here the gauchos divvies the grass cattle in to the corral, along with his own, and marks all the "orejanos" or unmarked calves, with his brand.

In 12 or 6 months the calves leave their mothers, and then the reader may but good bye to them for ever.

It is a growing evil, which we are glad to see the Government handle.

Perhaps, the persons who can explain of this law are those who have ex-